

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for clearing pipes used for conveying flowable liquid material of the flowable liquid material conveyed in said pipes, said pipes having an inlet end and at least one outlet end, said method comprising

as a first step, at said inlet end, forcing a gas into the pipe with the pipe being filled with the flowable liquid material, with at least one outlet end open, at a first pressure to discharge from said at least one outlet end pipe the flowable liquid material forced through by said gas at a first velocity;

as a second step, when substantially all of the flowable liquid material in said pipe has been discharged from said at least one outlet end, at said inlet end, forcing a gas into the pipe at a second velocity higher than said first velocity, and with said at least one outlet end still open, so that a gas pressure in said pipe is lower than said first pressure, to clear the flowable liquid material remaining in said pipe after said first step.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said forcing serves also for the second velocity step.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a cleaning fluid is introduced into the pipe after the gas forcing steps.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the cleaning fluid fills the pipe at least between the inlet end and the open outlet end.
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the cleaning fluid is discharged from the pipe and, with the outlet end partially closed down, a gas is forced into the pipe to increase the pressure therein so that an accompanying adiabatic temperature increase dries the pipe of cleaning fluid.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the gas forced into the pipe is air.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second velocity step involves a gas velocity through the pipe of the order of 20 m/s.

9. - 23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) The method according to the claim 1, wherein the flowable liquid material is a slug.

25. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the forcing of the gas is only, entirely gas.

26. (New) A method for clearing pipes used for conveying flowable liquid material of the flowable liquid material conveyed in said pipes, said pipes having an inlet end and at least one outlet end, said method comprising

as a first step, at said inlet end, forcing a gas into the pipe with the pipe being filled with the flowable liquid material, with at least one outlet end open, at a first pressure to eject from said at least one outlet end pipe the flowable liquid material, in a form of a slug, forced through by said gas at a first velocity;

as a second step, when substantially all of the flowable liquid material in said pipe has been ejected from said at least one outlet end, at said inlet end, forcing a gas into the pipe at a second velocity higher than said first velocity, and with said at least one outlet end still open, so that a gas pressure in said pipe is lower than said first

pressure, to clear the flowable liquid material remaining in said pipe after said first step.